

# SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

6/17/04

# TAX INCREASES

## **SB 1101 (EMERSON)**

## LIQUOR TAX

- Sikkema 1 (1 amend) was adopted. Effective date: 7/1/04 (the Governor's proposal).
- BERNERO 2 (1 amend) was defeated. This would have dedicated some of the new tax revenue to local communities (with state properties) for fire protection grants.
- SB 1101 was moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading.
- BERNERO 1 was withdrawn.
- SB 1101 was defeated [RC 420: 15 yes, 22 no]. The vote defeating SB 1101 was reconsidered and then passed for the day.

## **SB 1113 (CLARKE)**

#### **ESTATE TAX**

• SB 1113 was defeated [RC 418: 15 yes, 22 no]. EMERSON: This would tax only approximately the 900 wealthiest individuals in Michigan. It would exempt family businesses and farms.

### **HB 4612 (BROWN)**

#### RACINOS

• HB 4612 was defeated [RC 419: 18 yes, 19 no]. The vote defeating HB 4612 was reconsidered and then passed for the day.

## **HB 5632 (Julian)**

## CIGARETTE TAX

- EMERSON 1 (S-2) was defeated [RC 416: 16 yes, 21 no]. This would have raised the cigarette tax by 75 cents per pack. The additional tax revenues would go to Medicaid and the Healthy Michigan Fund (\$30 million).
- Sikkema 2 (S-) was defeated [RC 417: 5 yes, 32 no]. This would raise cigarette taxes by 75 cents per pack. The additional tax revenues would be placed in the state's General Fund.

- Sikkema 3 (S-10) was withdrawn.
- HB 5632 was passed for the day.

# FINAL PASSAGE

SB1208 (Stamas)
SB1209 (Jelinek)
SB1211 (Van Woerkom)
SB1214 (Cassis)
SB 1215 (Hammerstrom)
SB1216 (George)
SB1218 (Allen)
SB1222 (Sanborn)
SB1223 (BERNERO)
SB1224 (Gilbert)
SB 1228 (THOMAS)
SB 1230 (Toy)
SB 1231 (Toy)
SB 1234 (Patterson)

#### RED TAPE REDUCTION PACKAGE

The package of bills is an effort to dismantle barriers to job creation and establishes the principle of certainty and governmental accountability. The bills would establish a maximum processing time for business permits and provides an incentive for government to act. This would help provide certainty for new, existing, and expanding businesses.

- SB 1208 passed [RC 406: 37 yes, 0 no].
- SB 1209 passed [RC 407: 37 yes, 0 no].
- SB 1211 passed [RC 408: 37 yes, 0 no].
- SB 1214 passed [RC 409: 37 yes, 0 no].
- SB 1215 passed [RC 410: 37 yes, 0 no].
- SB 1216 passed [RC 411: 37 yes, 0 no].
- SB 1222 passed [RC 403: 37 yes, 0 no].
- SB 1223 passed [RC 404: 37 yes, 0 no].
- SB 1224 passed [RC 405: 37 yes, 0 no].
- SB 1228 passed [RC 412: 37 yes, 0 no].
- SB 1230 passed [RC 414: 37 yes, 0 no].
- SB 1231 passed [RC 415: 37 yes, 0 no].
- SB 1234 passed [RC 413: 37 yes, 0 no].

# RESOLUTIONS

### HCR 61 (Newell)

"The Michigan Legislature waives the prior notice requirement to permit increases in rates of compensation for certain members of the Department of State Police as set in the contract settled between the Michigan State Police Troopers Association and the state and the Civil Service Commission."

• HCR 61 was adopted [RC 421: 36 yes, 0 no].

# HCR 62 (Shulman)

"... the Michigan Legislature recognizes the need to exceed the spending limits established pursuant to section 603 of 2003 PA 193, and hereby authorizes the renovation projects at Huron Valley Correctional Facility and Huron Valley Center to commence immediately at a cost not to exceed \$3,000,000, to be paid from existing operational accounts appropriated to the Department of Corrections for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004..."

• HCR 62 was adopted [no RC].